

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE RECEIVED AUG 2 0 2003 TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In re application of

Confirmation No. 5439

Peter POCHLAUER et al.

Docket No. 2001-0331A

Serial No. 09/834,926

Group Art Unit 1621

Filed April 16, 2001

Examiner P. Zucker

PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF **OPTICALLY AND CHEMICALLY HIGHLY** PURE (R) - or (S)-a-HYDROXYCARBOXYLIC **ACIDS**

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated May 19, 2003, please amend the present application as follows: